MARVEL

5

MOON KNIGHT

PEPOSE
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ROSENBERG

CITY OF THE DEAD

Mercenary Marc Spector died and was reborn in the shadow of Khonshu, the Egyptian god of the moon. Spector became Moon Knight, the Fist of Khonshu, to fight evil. Through his Midnight Mission, he is the defender of all those who travel at night.

MOON KNIGHT

CITY OF THE DEAD

"VENGEANCE NEVER DIES"

A young boy named Khalil Nasser was grievously wounded, lapsing into a coma. Moon Knight used mystical means to travel to the City of the Dead to rescue Khalil's spirit. Once there, a surprising ally came to his aid: Layla El-Faouly, Spector's former lover, now empowered as the Scarlet Scarab.

Moon Knight and the Scarlet Scarab rescued Khalil's spirit from the Jackal Knight, who is Spector's vengeful deceased brother, Randall. Khalil was revealed to be the new host of Osiris, though the Jackal Knight forcibly transferred Khalil's powers to himself. Moon Knight and the Scarlet Scarab then braced themselves for a final confrontation with the newly empowered Jackal Knight!

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If you are struggling with thoughts of suicide, or are worried about a friend or loved one, please reach out to a counselor or someone you trust or dial 988 for the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

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EVERYWHERE YOU TURN, YOU CAN HEAR THE SCREAMS--THE *UNLIVING* HAVE RETURNED TO CONSUME THE MORTAL WORLD.

DESPITE THE BRAVE SOULS WHO STILL RESIST, THERE'S JUST *ONE SLIM HOPE* THAT REMAINS.

TIGRA--DOES THE AVENGERS HANDBOOK SAY ANYTHING ABOUT *ZOMBIE INVASIONS?*

JUST THE USUAL, REESE--KEEP *PUNCHING* UNTIL THE BAD GUYS STOP COMING!

KHALIL NASSER--AN ORPHAN SECRETLY CHOSEN AS THE VESSEL OF THE GOD *OSIRIS.*

DEFY ME AT YOUR *PERIL,* SPIRITS--THIS BOY IS UNDER THE PROTECTION OF HUNTER'S MOON!

MY NAME IS *MARC SPECTOR*-- AND I PROTECT THE STREETS FROM MY MIDNIGHT MISSION.

AND WHEN THE CULT OF ANUBIS LEFT KHALIL ON DEATH'S DOOR, I EMBARKED ON A DANGEROUS QUEST...

...TO RESCUE HIS SOUL FROM *THE CITY OF THE DEAD.*

IT WAS HERE I FOUND MY LOST LOVE, *LAYLA EL-FAOULY*--NOW THE *SCARLET SCARAB*, DEFENDER OF THE DUAT.

MARC, I'LL TRY TO FIND COVER FOR *KHALIL*...

...BUT WE NEED TO GET HIM TO THE *GATES OF OSIRIS!*

NOW WE FACE THE HORDES OF THE *JACKAL KNIGHT*--MY LATE BROTHER, *RANDALL*, RESURRECTED AS THE CHAMPION OF *ANUBIS*.

YOUR HOPES ARE *FUTILE*, MY DEAR--I HAVE DRAWN THE POWER OF *OSIRIS*...

...AND SOON MY *LEGION OF THE UNLIVING* SHALL RISE UP AND CONQUER THE MORTAL REALM!

DRIVEN MAD WITH *VENGEANCE*, MY BROTHER STILL BLAMES ME FOR HIS DEATH.

NO--AS LONG AS KHALIL'S STILL *BREATHING*, I MADE A PROMISE TO GET HIM OUT OF HERE.

AND IT'S THAT OBSESSION THAT'S MADE HIM *CARELESS*.

OH, REALLY, MARC--YOU AND WHAT *ARMY*?

BECAUSE THIS REALM IS *PSYCHOACTIVE*--SHAPED BY THE CONTENTS OF ONE'S *HEART*.

YOU SHOULD *KNOW* THIS ABOUT ME BY NOW, RANDALL...

AND IF THIS JOURNEY HAS TAUGHT ME *ANYTHING*...

...IT'S THAT I'M NOT *ASHAMED* OF WHO I AM ANYMORE.

I AM THE TRAVELER.

THE EMBRACER.

THE PATHFINDER.

THE DEFENDER OF THOSE WHO TRAVEL AT NIGHT.

I AM...THE MOON KNIGHT!

VENGEANCE NEVER DIES

DISSOCIATIVE IDENTITY DISORDER--IT'S A CONDITION I'VE MANAGED MOST OF MY LIFE...

RRRRR-- A CHEAP TRICK, NOTHING MORE!

ETERNAL LIFE TO WHOEVER BRINGS ME MOON KNIGHT'S HEAD!

...BUT TODAY, IT JUST MIGHT BE THE EDGE WE NEED TO TURN THE TIDE.

THIS IS UNBELIEVABLE, MARC--I NEVER THOUGHT YOU COULD TURN YOUR ALTERS INTO AN ARMY!

YOU KNOW ME, LAYLA--I ALWAYS BRING THE PARTY.

MASTER SNIPER DRAWS FIRST, AIMING FOR A QUICK HEADSHOT...

THAT'S IT, JUST A LITTLE-- NNF--!

THRAKK

...BUT I LEARNED ALL ABOUT FAST HANDS FROM MY ALTER JAKE LOCKLEY.

GRAB THE KID AND HAUL ASS, MARC-- WE GOT YA COVERED!

YEAH, YOU'RE COVERING HIM-- BUT WHO'S COVERING BLACK SPECTRE?

KLANGG

NICE MOVES, LADYBUG-- YOU GOT ANY DINNER PLANS AFTER THIS?

MEANWHILE, *STEVEN GRANT* IS THE PERSONALITY WHO EMBODIES MY REFINED, *ANALYTICAL* SIDE.

RRAARGH-- QUIT *SQUIRMING,* DAMN YOU!

VRRRRRRRM

SLOPPY BUSINESS ALL AROUND, *CHAINSAW.*

ALWAYS QUICK WITH A GADGET, A GAMBIT OR A WITTY *REMARK.*

AND GIVEN *PLASMA'S* AIM...YOU REALLY OUGHT TO PAY MORE ATTENTION TO YOUR *SURROUNDINGS!*

FROOOSH

KEEP *LAUGHING,* MOON KNIGHT-- YOU'LL BE THE NEXT TO *FRY!*

FWOOOO

WHAT THE--?

YOU MAY COMMAND THE *FLAMES,* LITTLE ONE...

...BUT I WIELD THE *NIGHT!*

KHONSHU MUST BE GETTING SOFT IN HIS IMMORTAL AGE--AFTER ALL, HE LET THEM *LIVE.*

NO-- *TAURUS!*

THOOM!

I'LL ADMIT, STEVEN, EVEN IN THIS SMALL FASHION...IT'S GOOD TO BE BACK.

WITH MY UNLIKELY "FAMILY" AT MY SIDE, I ALLOW MYSELF A GLIMMER OF *HOPE* THAT WE MIGHT STILL WIN.

WHUDD

SORRY, *MIDNIGHT*-- WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO SETTLE THIS ANOTHER TIME!

HANG ON, KHALIL, WE'RE *ALMOST*-- *NYARRGH!*

SHRAAK

BUT NO MATTER WHO COMES TO MY AID... THERE ARE SOME BATTLES I MUST FIGHT *ALONE.*

DID YOU HONESTLY THINK YOU COULD ESCAPE FROM *ME,* BROTHER?!

I AM THE *ULTIMATE ENEMY*-- YOUR GREATEST SIN.

I JUST PRAY TO ANYONE WHO CAN STILL *LISTEN.*

AND BELIEVE ME... I PLAN TO MAKE YOU *SUFFER* FOR IT.

PLEASE, FOR THE SAKE OF TWO WORLDS...DON'T LET ME BE *TOO LATE.*

NNFF--I CAN FEEL IT THROUGH THE *SCARAB.*

THE DUAT IS CROSSING OVER INTO THE *LAND OF THE LIVING!*

YOU MAY HAVE SOME *FANCY FOOTWORK,* SPECTRE...

...BUT I LEARNED TO DANCE WITH THE *KARNAK COWBOYS!*

SHIIIING

OUR ONLY CHANCE IS IF I PUSH THE SCARAB *FURTHER* THAN EVER BEFORE...

...AND THEN HOPE I'M LUCKY ENOUGH TO SURVIVE WHAT HAPPENS *NEXT.*

RMMMMMBB

IT'S YOUR SHOW, *LADYBUG*--WHAT DO WE DO TO STOP IT FROM *SPREADING?*

TO CONTAIN AN ENTIRE CITY--? YOU *CAN'T.*

NYAARGH!

HEAR ME NOW, JACKAL KNIGHT--*THIS REALM* IS UNDER MY PROTECTION!

FOR I AM THE *SCARLET SCARAB*...

...AND TAWERET AS MY WITNESS... *I WILL NOT BREAK!*

DEAR LORD, SHE'S ACTUALLY *DOING* IT--LAYLA'S HOLDING BACK THE ENTIRE CITY!

WE MUST KEEP *FIGHTING*, STEVEN--OR ELSE HER ENDEAVORS SHALL BE IN VAIN...

"...IF WE FAIL TO BUY MARC TIME TO STOP THE JACKAL KNIGHT ONCE AND FOR ALL!"

KRAK

OH, MARC-- STILL TRYING TO PRETEND YOU'RE THE *HERO*, AREN'T YOU?

BUT I'VE KNOWN WHO YOU *REALLY* ARE EVER SINCE I WAS A BOY.

"THE BELOVED *FIRSTBORN*-- WHO BROKE OUR FATHER'S HEART TO PURSUE YOUR *BLOODLUST!*

"MARC SPECTOR-- THE SOLDIER, THE MERCENARY, THE REMORSELESS *KILLER!*"

YET THE COSMIC JOKE OF IT ALL-- WHEN YOUR SINS FINALLY *CAUGHT UP* WITH YOU...

KRAKT

...THE GREAT KHONSHU SPARED YOUR LIFE...AND GAVE YOU A SECOND CHANCE.

AND WHAT DID YOU *DO* WITH THAT OPPORTUNITY, MOON KNIGHT?

"BESIDES SLIT MY THROAT AND LEAVE ME TO *DIE?*"

WAS I NOT *MURDEROUS* ENOUGH, MARC?!

WHY DOESN'T *YOUR BROTHER* DESERVE A SECOND CHANCE?!

THOOM

→GASP←-- M-MISTER KNIGHT!

MY GOD--EVEN THROUGH EVERYTHING, KHALIL IS STILL *CLINGING* TO LIFE.

N-NO...HE WON'T LAST MUCH LONGER...

→KAFF← TH-THE JACKAL KNIGHT'S TOO *POWERFUL*...

HE WON'T STOP U-UNTIL HE HAS ALL OF OSIRIS' *MAGIC*...

...UNLESS SOMEBODY CUTS HIM OFF AT THE *SOURCE*.

BUT IT ISN'T UNTIL HE REACHES THE BLADE THAT I REALIZE WHAT HE'S ABOUT TO DO.

I'M *S-SORRY*, MISTER KNIGHT...

SLASH

...THIS WAS THE *ONLY* WAY...

I TRY TO REACH OUT FOR *KHALIL*--BUT HE'S TOO FAR GONE ALREADY.

KHALIL--
NOOOO!

KRAKT

GNNFF--!
STUBBORN TO THE LAST, EH, BROTHER?

NO MATTER...YOU WILL FALL BEFORE THE *WRATH* OF--
ARRRGH!

THOOOOOOOOOOM

IMPOSSIBLE--
THE POWER IS *GONE!*

BECAUSE IT WAS NEVER *YOURS* TO BEGIN WITH, MORTAL...

...FOR I AM HE WHO BEARS THE EYE--
THE *MIGHTY OSIRIS!*

AND I AM FINALLY FREE FROM YOUR SORCEROUS GRASP...

...THANKS TO MY HOST'S VALIANT *SACRIFICE.*

NO!

I WON'T LET YOU WIN, MARC--NOT AFTER *EVERYTHING* YOU'VE DONE!

MY BROTHER LASHES OUT WILDLY--HE KNOWS HIS SCHEMES ARE *OVER*...

IF I CAN'T RAISE THE CITY OF THE DEAD, THEN I'LL DO THE *NEXT BEST THING.*

I'LL CONSUME *YOUR HEART*--AND USE YOUR BODY TO KILL ANYONE YOU'VE EVER LOVED!

...AND THAT'S WHEN IT HITS ME--WHAT HIS *REAL* GAME HAS BEEN ALL ALONG.

IS *THAT* IT, RANDALL--YOU REALLY WANT TO HAVE *MY LIFE* SO BADLY?

THEN GO AHEAD AND *TAKE IT!*

I LOOK MY BROTHER IN THE EYE, AS HE FINALLY DISCOVERS *THE TRUTH.*

N-NO...

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE...

BEING MARC SPECTOR ISN'T FOR THE *FAINT OF HEART.*

ALL THAT ANGUISH...ALL THAT *GUILT...*

HOW DO YOU LIVE WITH SO MUCH *PAIN?!*

I BEG YOU-- FREE ME FROM THIS *CURSED* PLACE!

KRAKADOOOOOM

FOR THE LOVE OF ALL THAT'S HOLY-- *LET ME* OUT!

IT'S A *STRANGE THING*, SEEING THIS BROKEN MAN ONCE CAPABLE OF SUCH ATROCITIES.

IT'S OVER, RANDALL...BUT YOU WERE RIGHT ABOUT *ONE THING.*

I FAILED YOU *SO MANY TIMES*--AS A BROTHER, AS A HERO, AS A FRIEND...

...AND ALL I'VE EVER WANTED WAS TO TELL YOU THAT I'M *SORRY.*

BUT I DON'T SEE A *VILLAIN* HERE ANYMORE...JUST A LOST AND LONELY SOUL.

WH-WHY DID YOU COME HERE, MARC?

WHY WOULD YOU R-RISK IT ALL...F-FOR SOME *MEANINGLESS KID?*

AND FOR FAR TOO LONG... PERHAPS WE'VE BEEN *TWO OF A KIND.*

...

ISN'T IT *OBVIOUS,* RANDALL...?

"WHEN I LOOKED AT HIM...IT MADE ME THINK OF *YOU.*"

YOU HAVE FOUGHT *WELL*, MORTALS--NOW I SHALL OVERSEE THE JACKAL KNIGHT'S CONFINEMENT.

UNTIL HE IS CLEANSED OF ANUBIS' BLIGHT, IT MAY BE *MILLENNIA* BEFORE HE FACES JUDGMENT.

AND WHAT ABOUT *YOU*, OSIRIS?

YOU ABANDONED YOUR KINGDOM--AND NOW YOUR *GAMES* HAVE COST THE LIFE OF AN INNOCENT CHILD!

WHERE ARE THE SCALES OF JUSTICE, MIGHTY ONE--WHERE IS YOUR JUDGMENT?!

YOU ASK WHY I SEEK *MORTAL VESSELS*, LITTLE ONE? KNOW THAT IT IS FOR A GREATER CALLING.

NOT EVEN A *GOD* WOULD BE FIT TO JUDGE THE LIVING WITHOUT THE GIFT OF *MORTALITY* FIRST.

IT IS THROUGH MY JOURNEYS THAT I SEE THE SCALES OF JUSTICE TURN FOR *YOU*.

YOUR HEART'S BALANCE HAS FINALLY *SHIFTED*--AND YOU HAVE EARNED YOUR *ETERNAL REWARD*.

AND AS FOR THE BOY... YOUR WORDS DO HOLD *WISDOM*.

FOR I AM THE GOD OF DEATH AND REBIRTH... AND I OWE HIM A *BOON*.

I FEEL THE WORLD SHIFT FROM ITS AXIS--AND I REALIZE MY TIME HAS JUST *RUN OUT.*

NO, NO, NO--OH GOD...

LAYLA-- HE'S SENDING US BACK!

YET AFTER ALL THIS...I'M STILL NOT READY TO SAY *GOODBYE.*

SWEETHEART... I--I CAN'T DO THIS...

I DON'T THINK I CAN SURVIVE LOSING YOU *TWICE.*

OH, MARC... CAN'T YOU *SEE?*

YOU'LL *NEVER* LOSE ME... AS LONG AS YOU CARRY ME IN YOUR *HEART.*

MY GUARDIAN ANGEL GIVES ME A *FAREWELL* THAT BLAZES ACROSS MY MEMORIES.

BE *GOOD,* HANDSOME...

AND NOW I KNOW, DOWN IN *THE CITY OF THE DEAD...*

I'LL SEE YOU IN THE *NEXT LIFE.*

...MEMORIES ARE THE *ONLY* CURRENCY THAT MATTERS.

LAYLA!

THE WEIGHT RUSHES OVER ME, KNOCKING THE *WIND* FROM MY CHEST.

NOT JUST THE HEAVINESS OF HUMAN FLESH...BUT THE SHEER *GRIEF* THAT OVERWHELMS ME.

NO...I'M *BACK.*

STILL I CLAW MYSELF FROM MY SARCOPHAGUS, HOPING AGAINST *IMPOSSIBLE* HOPE.

BADR-- IS HE...?!

GREETINGS, BROTHER-- WE WERE *WONDERING* HOW LONG IT'D TAKE FOR YOU TO FINALLY WAKE UP.

NO OFFENSE, SIR... BUT YOU LOOK *TERRIBLE.*

MY GOD, OSIRIS KEPT HIS *WORD*--KHALIL'S ALIVE AND WELL...

THANKS FOR EVERYTHING, MISTER KNIGHT--I ALWAYS KNEW YOU'D *SAVE* ME.

HONESTLY, KID...I THINK THE FEELING'S *MUTUAL.*

BUT AS I'VE LEARNED... THE GODS OFTEN WORK IN *MYSTERIOUS WAYS.*

KHALIL--?

NO-- IT *CAN'T* BE...

RASHID!

KHALIL... WHERE AM I?

THE LAST THING I REMEMBER WAS THIS *BLINDING LIGHT...*

EVER SINCE HIS BROTHER DIED, KHALIL HAD BEEN LIVING ON THE STREETS.

BUT THANKS TO THE GOD OF DEATH AND REBIRTH, A FAMILY TORN ASUNDER IS *REUNITED.*

WHAT'S THE MATTER, BRO? YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'VE SEEN A *GHOST.*

IT'S ALL RIGHT, RASHID-- WE'VE GOT *A LOT* TO CATCH UP ON.

YOU MAY BE *UNDISCIPLINED,* SPECTOR...BUT YOU HAVE FULFILLED OUR FATHER'S MISSION WELL.

DO YOU PLAN ON STAYING TO *CHAT* WITH KHALIL'S BROTHER...?

NO... *OF COURSE* NOT.

MAY THE GODS WATCH OVER YOU, MY FRIEND.

"AND MAY YOU ONE DAY FIND THE PEACE THAT YOU SO RICHLY *DESERVE.*"

NO MATTER WHAT I DO...I CAN'T ESCAPE THE *BLOOD.*

ONCE I WAS A *MERCENARY*...AN UNREPENTANT KILLER...

EVEN WITH MY HARDEST PRAYERS, MY *PENANCE* COULD NEVER TRULY OUTWEIGH MY GUILT.

REBORN AS THE *FIST OF KHONSHU*, I WAS GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO TURN MY LIFE AROUND.

AND DESPITE MY SINS...I WAS EVEN GRANTED THE CHANCE TO SAY *GOODBYE.*

SEEING LAYLA ONE LAST TIME-- AND KNOWING THAT SHE STILL *BELIEVED* IN ME...?

BE *SEEING* YOU, MARC...

PERHAPS ONE DAY, MAYBE I'LL EVEN BELIEVE IT *MYSELF.*

BUT UNTIL THAT DAY COMES, I'LL PROTECT THE INNOCENT THE WAY SHE'D WANT ME TO.

MY NAME IS MARC SPECTOR...

...AND I AM THE *MOON KNIGHT.*

NEXT:

MOON KNIGHT

TIME IS RUNNING OUT FOR MOON KNIGHT IN...

THE LAST DAYS OF MOON KNIGHT!